

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2024**

Company: Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc.

Address: 612 3rd Street

PO Box 349

Garretson, SD 57030

Telephone number: 605-594-3411

Company contact: Shirley Flanagan

Study Area Code: 391657, 391642, 391405, 399024

Lifeline/Tribal Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:



Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)



Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Tribal Link Up within 1st 30 days of service.* (See attached letter.)



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website.



Company's information posted on USAC website.



Other (describe):

Annual letter was mailed to all customers on 12/7/2023 (documents attached)

New customers are sent a welcome packet within the first 30 days which includes a Lifeline letter (document attached) and a welcome email (if they also receive broadband) which includes link to lifeline information. (document attached)

*Required

BERESFORD VFW MEETS

Marion Neuroth | Secretary

The VFW Auxiliary met on November 13 at 7pm in the City Library, with Donita Mullnix presiding. All rituals were performed and roll call was given by the secretary.

Our guest was Leah Rollage, the President of District #1, here for inspection of the Auxiliary. President Donita introduced her to the members.

The Treasurers report was given by Gerri Dahlin.

Bills were presented for approval.

Reports were given by Chairmen for Poppies, Membership, Voice of Democracy Program and Youth activities.

A report was given on Meals-on-Wheels delivered in August.

The POW/MIA table was set up at the City Library in September for two weeks.

The vendor show report was given.

Christmas Wreath orders will be delivered the first of December.

Twenty ornaments were sent to decorate the VFW Christmas tree at the Pierre Capitol.

The Veteran's Day program was well attended. The VFW Auxiliary served 65 peo-

ple cookies and coffee after the program.

A donation will be sent to our National Home for Children in Michigan in honor of the person making twenty small wooden crosses for the Auxiliary.

The poppy donation was well received at the Veteran's Day program.

Christmas crosses will be presented to our Bethesda nursing home Veterans and Auxiliary members.

The Turkey Trot event was held on November 17 at the Klassix.

A donation will be given to the National Children's Home in honor of the Auxiliary 90th birthday next year.

District #1 President Leah Rollage, commented at this time.

The Trustees approved the bills presented.

President Donita announced the December meeting will be December 11 at the Senior Center at 1:30 pm. If you would like to have dinner at 11:30 am there that day, please call in your order on the Friday before to have meal, then attend meeting.

The meeting closed and lunch was provided by the President.

Donita Evenson

100

Beresford, SD

November 27, 2023



Donita Alice Evenson was born February 26, 1923 to Lacy and Amanda (Carson) Watkins in Mason City, Iowa. She died November 27, 2023 at the Alcester Care & Rehab Center at the age of 100 years, nine months and one day.

She and her husband, Everett, had two sons, Jim (Elaine) Evenson of Catonsville, Maryland and Ed (Sue) Evenson of Beresford, South Dakota.

The family lived many years in Huron, SD where Ev was the manager of the J. J. Newberry store. In 1969 they moved to Willmar, Minnesota where Donita was the

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Gordon Powell

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Parkston, SD

November 19, 2023



Gordon Wilford Powell passed away November 19, 2023 at Avera St. Benedict Hospital in Parkston, SD with his family by his side. Gordon was born on September 11, 1945 to Emery and Pearl (Talbot) Powell. He graduated from Alcester High School in 1963.

He met the love of his life, Elaine Kopsas, while working together at Otis Radio. They were married on June 25, 1965 and had 58 wonderful years together. They had 2 children, David and Barbara.

Gordon worked over 40 years in the manufacturing industry. This included working for Otis Radio, Coil Craft, Raven Industries, McCord Heat Transfer, CCL Label, Hutchinson Technology, and Handgard, Inc. He also was a manager for Shop-N-Cart. He worked for Quality Presort prior to his retirement. After his retirement, they moved from Sioux Falls to live with their daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Alan, on their farm near Parkston.

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2:00 pm

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALLIANCE COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

LIFELINE

Financial assistance through the federal Lifeline program is available to help qualified customers afford and maintain basic telephone or broadband internet service. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$9.25 on internet service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile) per qualified household. Subscribers may receive the Lifeline credit on service offered in a bundle. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges. Reduced deposits are also available.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A 2023 household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Households currently receiving more than one Lifeline service must select a single Lifeline service provider and de-enroll from the program with any other provider(s).

Lifeline participants must recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is a government program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. The services above aren't offered in all areas.

How to Apply for Lifeline

Option 1: Apply online through the Lifeline National Verifier

Visit lifelinesupport.org from any computer or mobile device. You may need to upload verification documents to the website if you don't qualify under the Federal Public Housing Assistance. If you're deemed eligible for benefits, contact Alliance Communications at 1-800-701-4980. The Lifeline National Verifier does not notify the provider.

Option 2: Apply in person at one of our business offices.

Brandon: 1400 E. Aspen Blvd. Garretson: 612 Third St. Baltic: 501 Second St
An Alliance representative will enter your information and enroll you if you're eligible. Please bring documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits.

Option 3: Apply by Mail

Print an application from LifelineSupport.org. Fill out and mail it with proof of eligibility to: Lifeline Support Center, PO Box 9100, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communications Commission program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet access. It provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households.

There are two steps to enroll: 1) Go to getInternet.gov to apply or print out a mail-in application. 2) Contact your preferred participating provider, such as Alliance, to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill. Get more details and eligibility criteria at fcc.gov/ACP.

Call 1-800-701-4980 if you have questions.

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There's no place like USA.gov.

There's plenty of cheer to

First Dakota Holiday Open

Celebrate the season with holiday treats, refreshments and door prizes!

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BACKUP POWER (CONTINUED)

backup unit. If you have additional questions, please contact us by dialing 611 from any phone with Alliance service or call (605) 582-6311 from your cell phone.

LIFELINE

Lifeline is a federal program that helps lower the monthly cost of your phone or Internet service. If eligible, you can receive \$9.25 off your service.

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) administers the Lifeline program. USAC is responsible for helping you apply for the program, understand eligibility requirements, and keep your benefit current through an annual recertification process.

INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

You qualify for a discount if:

- You participate in any ONE of these government benefit programs:
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Medicaid
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
 - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

— OR —

- Your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines for 2023.
- 1 person: \$19,683
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- 7 people: \$61,317
- 8 people: \$68,256
- For each additional person, add: \$6,939

HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY

A household is a group of people that share income and expenses.

- You are only allowed to get one Lifeline discount per household.
- If you share housing, complete the Household Worksheet.
- The worksheet is available on our website, LifelineSupport.org. You can also ask your Lifeline service provider.

THREE WAYS TO APPLY

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2. **MAIL YOUR APPLICATION** Print an application from LifelineSupport.org. Fill out and mail it with proof of eligibility to: Lifeline Support Center PO Box 9100 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773
3. **CONTACT A PHONE OR INTERNET COMPANY** Find a company that provides Lifeline at LifelineSupport.org. Click Companies Near Me

HOW TO SHOW YOU ARE ELIGIBLE

You may need to show proof that you qualify for Lifeline, such as:

- A copy of your SNAP or program letter OR
- A copy of your pay stub or tax return to prove your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

If you have a disability and need assistance with your application, contact the Lifeline Support Center.

LIFELINE SUPPORT CENTER
(800) 234-9473
9 a.m. - 9 p.m. ET
7 DAYS PER WEEK LifelineSupport@usac.org
www.LifelineSupport.org

NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

You can register your home or mobile phone for free at www.donotcall.gov. After you register, other types of organizations may still call you, such as charities, political groups, debt collectors and surveys. To learn more, read the FAQs section. If you received an unwanted call after your number was on the National Registry for 31 days, report it to the FTC.

CALLER ID SPOOFING

The number on your caller ID says the person calling you lives in your area, but he could be halfway across the world. A scam called caller ID spoofing manipulates the number appearing on your caller ID display. Scammers know you will hesitate to reveal personal information if an 800 number, for example, appears on your caller ID display. Always be suspicious, especially when you're asked to provide personal information. Ask the caller for his name, telephone number and the organization he is representing and then hang up. Do not provide any information at this time. Call the organization back using the customer assistance number listed in the phone book, an official online directory, your account statement or bill. Do NOT use the number the caller gives you.

PRIVACY NOTICE

Your privacy matters to us. We pledge to protect your privacy and keep your trust. As we provide services to you, we gather information about the quality, technical configuration, type, destination, and amount of products and services you use. We also gather data during application processes. This information is known as Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) and "Non Public Personal Information." Under federal law, you have a right and Alliance Communications has a duty, to protect the confidentiality of your CPNI. Alliance Communications will not disclose or sell this information, unless required to do so by law, or upon receipt of an affirmative written request by a customer. Alliance may share or permit access to your CPNI on a limited, as-needed basis with trusted agents and contractors (billing and technical support vendors) that assist us in providing services. They share a duty to protect your CPNI. Know that we limit access to your personal information to employees, agents or contractors who must use the information to provide products and services to you. Our employee handbook, nondisclosure agreements and the law restrict further sharing of this information in order to guard your

personal information. From time to time, we would like to notify you of additional products available from us outside of the existing business relationship we have with you. For example, if you have our local voice service, you may be interested to learn about specials on our cable television service. You have the right, under federal law, to be excluded from these special notifications. If it is acceptable to receive information about additional products and services, you need to do nothing. However, if you prefer to be excluded from these notifications, please call the business office by dialing 1-800-701-4980 or e-mail us at cpni@alliancecom.net within 30 days of your receipt of this notice. Ask us to limit your CPNI, and include your name and Alliance account number or Alliance phone number. We will screen you from all targeted notifications for the next two years. Your Alliance service is not impacted by this notification.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-3339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, visit www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement and complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT TO IOWA RESIDENTS

We're committed to providing you with quality service, and we hope that you'll bring any concerns to our attention so that we may find solutions. Below is a notice that the Iowa Utilities Board requires us to send to customers every year:

If you are unable to resolve issues with your utility service provider or

have questions about utility service rules and requirements, the Board's Customer Service staff is here to assist you weekdays from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., not including official state holidays.

Electronically: iub.iowa.gov

Email: customer@iub.iowa.gov

Phone: 877.565.4550

Mail or in person: 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Fax: 515.725.7398

SOUTH DAKOTA RELAY

Relay South Dakota is a FREE public service that provides telephone accessibility to people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech disabled. Simply dial 711 to be connected any time of the day or night.

- You can make calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year – with no restrictions on length or number of calls placed.
- A Communications Assistant will translate between the two different phones, speaking aloud whatever is typed, so the standard phone user can hear it, and typing whatever is said, so the text telephone user can read it.
- Service is available in English and Spanish.
- Calls can be made through a range of devices from caption phones and TTYs (Text Telephones) to computers, tablets, mobile phones and even ordinary phones using amplifier devices. Free equipment is available upon request to eligible South Dakotans. Visit relaysd.com/contact-us/apply-now/#sioux-falls or call (866) 246-5759 Voice/TTY or (605)-362-2912 Voice/TTY

According to federal law, all conversations are kept private and confidential. No records of any conversations are maintained.

Relay Numbers To Know

All Services: 711

Customer Service: 877-866-8950

TTY: 800-877-1113

Voice: 800-877-1113

ASCII: 800-877-1113

Speech-to-Speech (STS): 877-981-9744

Voice Carry Over (VCO): 877-981-2117

Hearing Carry Over (HCO): 800-877-1113

All services are available in Spanish.

IOWA RELAY

Hamilton Relay provides telecommunications relay services for the state of Iowa including TTY, Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), Visually Assisted Speech-to-Speech (VA STS), Spanish and CapTel®. When you connect with Iowa Relay, a Communication Assistant (CA) will connect on the phone with you. Simply give the CA the number you wish to call and your call will be processed promptly, professionally and accurately.

How To Connect – Dial 711

Dial 711 to use Hamilton Relay in Iowa or call one of the toll-free numbers below:

- TTY: 800-735-2942
- Voice: 800-735-2943
- VCO (Voice Carry Over): 800-735-4313
- Speech-to-Speech: 877-735-1007
- Visually Assisted Speech-to-Speech (VA STS): 800-855-8440
- Spanish: 800-264-7190 (includes Spanish-to-Spanish and translation from English to Spanish)

If you are traveling out of State or you are in a State that is not served by Hamilton Relay, you can place interstate calls by calling:

- TTY: 800-833-5833 (toll-free)
- Voice: 800-833-7833 (toll-free)

Relay Iowa Customer Care

Hamilton Relay
1006 12th Street
Aurora, NE 68818
Voice/TTY: 888-516-4692
Spanish Voice/TTY: 866-744-7471
Fax: 402-694-5110
Email: iarelay@hamiltonrelay.com
Website: hamiltonrelay.com/iowa

MINNESOTA RELAY

Minnesota Relay is a free, federally mandated Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) program that allows individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or speech disabled to place and receive telephone calls.

A specially trained communications assistant (CA) facilitates the telephone conversation between the person with a hearing or speech disability and other individuals. Calls can be made to anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. All calls are completely confidential.

Minnesota Relay is administered by the Telecommunications Access Minnesota (TAM) program within the Minnesota Department of Commerce, and is funded by a monthly surcharge on each wired and wireless telephone access line, and a fee on each pre-paid wireless retail transaction, in the state.

The state contracts with Sprint Communications Company, LP to provide Minnesota Relay services. The Minnesota Relay call center is located in Moorhead, MN.

To learn more about Minnesota Relay Services:

Website: mn.gov/commerce/consumer/telecom/mnrelay
Voice/TTY: 1-800-657-3775
E-mail: mn.relay@state.mn.us

You may dial 7-1-1 and be connected to Minnesota Relay. Once connected to the relay service, tell the CA the type of relay call you wish to make (i.e. TTY, HCO, VCO, STS, Spanish, etc.). While the 7-1-1 access number is easy to remember, dialing the direct toll-free number for a specific type of relay call may result in faster connections because the call does not need to be transferred.

- **TTY, Voice, ASCII, Hearing Carry Over**
1-800-627-3529
- **CapTel (single-line)**
To contact a person who uses a single-line CapTel, dial 1-877-243-2823 and then enter the telephone number of the CapTel user.
- **Speech-to-Speech**
1-877-627-3848
- **Voice Carry Over**
1-877-627-3024
- **Two-Line Voice Carry Over**
1-866-855-4611
- **Spanish Relay**
1-877-627-5448

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM HELPS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS PAY FOR BROADBAND SERVICE

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communications Commission program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet access. It provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households.

There are two steps to enroll: 1) Go to getinternet.gov to apply or print out a mail-in application. 2) Contact your preferred participating provider, such as Alliance Communications, to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Visit getinternet.gov for details and eligibility criteria.

2023 Annual Notices



Dial 611 from any Alliance phone or call (605) 582-6311 from your cell phone. All notices to Alliance customers are available at www.alliancecom.net/notices

BACKUP POWER FOR HOME PHONE SERVICE DURING POWER OUTAGES

A backup power supply (battery) is required for your digital voice service to be in service in the event of a power outage. A backup battery, such as what Alliance Communications offers, will allow regular corded land line phones to work during a power outage and to maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services. When a power outage occurs, you should ensure that you have one CORDED single-line touchtone phone connected directly to your wall jack and the Optical Network Terminal connected directly to the Battery Backup Unit. If you connect a cordless phone, it will not function without a separate battery backup, and not all cordless phones are so equipped.

What Your Battery Can and Can't Do for You

Our backup battery allows you to continue to use your home voice service during a power outage. Without a backup battery, you will not be able to make any calls, including emergency calls to 911. Our backup battery does not provide power to any service other than voice. Home security systems, medical monitoring devices and other equipment will not run on a home phone backup battery.

Purchase and Replacement Options

Backup batteries are available directly from Alliance Communications. Please dial 611 from any phone with Alliance service, call (605) 582-6311 from your cell phone, or send an email to email@alliancecom.net.

Expected Backup Power Duration

The battery backup is expected to last up to 8 hours in the event of a power outage depending upon battery age, usage, and environment. The estimated life expectancy for the battery is 2-4 years depending on power outage frequency and environment.

Instructions for Proper Care and Use of Your Battery

Please follow the instructions included with your battery for proper use, storage, and care. Batteries should be stored in locations under normal room temperatures.

Battery backup units will display a battery light when the battery needs replaced.

Alliance Communications does not supply any warranty on the battery

(BACKUP POWER CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



ALLIANCE
COMMUNICATIONS™

P.O. Box 349
Garretson, SD 57030

**LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE
AVAILABLE FOR
QUALIFIED RESIDENTS**



LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED RESIDENTS

This is a yearly notice that Alliance is required to send to all residential customers to ensure people know about the availability of the Lifeline Program and the Affordable Connectivity Program.

If you already have Lifeline, please note that this mailing is NOT your recertification notice. Your recertification notice will come from Universal Service Administration Company.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

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LIFELINE

Financial assistance through the federal Lifeline program is available to help qualified customers afford and maintain basic telephone or broadband internet service. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$9.25 on internet service or \$5.25/month on phone service (landline or mobile) per qualified household. Subscribers may receive the Lifeline credit on service offered in a bundle. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges. Reduced deposits are also available.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A 2023 household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Households currently receiving more than one Lifeline service must select a single Lifeline service provider and de-enroll from the program with any other provider(s).

Lifeline participants must recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is a government program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. The services above aren't offered in all areas.

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) administers the Lifeline program. USAC is responsible for helping you apply for the program, understand eligibility requirements, and keep your benefit current through an annual recertification process.

INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

You qualify for a discount if:

- You participate in any ONE of these government benefit programs:
 - o Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- o Medicaid
- o Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- o Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
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— OR —

- Your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines for 2023.
- 1 person: \$19,683
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HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY

A household is a group of people that share income and expenses.

- You are only allowed to get one Lifeline discount per household.
- If you share housing, complete the Household Worksheet.
- The worksheet is available at LifelineSupport.org. You can also ask Alliance Communications.

THREE WAYS TO APPLY

1. **APPLY ONLINE** Find the online application at LifelineSupport.org.
2. **MAIL YOUR APPLICATION** Print an application from LifelineSupport.org. Fill out and mail it with proof of eligibility to: Lifeline Support Center PO Box 9100 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773
3. **CONTACT ALLIANCE COMMUNICATIONS** Call 611 from any phone with Alliance service or 1-800-701-4980.

HOW TO SHOW YOU ARE ELIGIBLE

You may need to show proof that you qualify for Lifeline, such as:

- A copy of your SNAP or program letter OR
- A copy of your pay stub or tax return to prove your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

If you have a disability and need assistance with your application, contact the Lifeline Support Center.

LIFELINE SUPPORT CENTER

(800) 234-9473

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. ET

7 DAYS PER WEEK

LifelineSupport@usac.org

www.LifelineSupport.org

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALLIANCE COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

LIFELINE

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Brandon: 1400 E. Aspen Blvd. Garretson: 612 Third St. Baltic: 501 Second St
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Call 1-800-701-4980 if you have questions.

to tackle sports official shortage

VERMILLION – In response to South Dakota's sports official shortage, the University of South Dakota has partnered with the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) to train more officials across the state.

With just a little over 1,600 officials in South Dakota, the state's referee shortage continues to be a pressing issue, and with the existing pool of officials continuing to age, the SDHSAA saw a need to get younger people involved in officiating. Recognizing a potential in college students, the SDHSAA contacted USD, specifically the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Management (KSM), to collaborate on implementing training courses for students.

"We're trying to get younger people involved in officiating, and being able to talk to a couple of the classes in the KSM department here at USD was a great opportunity for us to get in front of about 150 students and share a little bit more about officiating," said Jo Auch, assistant executive director at SDHSAA. "Almost everyone in the class was involved in athletics in some way, shape or form, so it was a great opportunity to see if we could get them to continue on with that effort to officiate."

USD is the only South Dakota higher education institution selected to partner with the SDHSAA. The unique program not only addresses the shortage but it also gives USD students a chance to earn college credits.

In the spring 2024 semester, students across campus can enroll in two different two-credit, hybrid courses:

officiating volleyball and officiating football. Upon completing the course, students will have the opportunity to officiate real high school and club sports events, providing them practical, hands-on application of their training while allowing them to earn extra income.

"It's a great opportunity for students to earn money while they're in college," said Jessie Daw, chair of the KSM department. "They can set their own schedule, the pay is really good, and they can start to develop skills like decision making and managing conflict that they can put on their resume."

The program uses the ReReps Officiating Education System, an online education platform that employs virtual reality-like scenarios, to allow students to engage in decision-making processes and make referee calls in simulated situations. For the in-person aspect of the course, instructors plan to invite experienced officials from across the state to discuss topics like handling conflict and managing coaches, play-

ers and games with students, extending beyond rules and mechanics.

Belinda Miller, a retired educator and certified volleyball official, emphasized the comprehensive nature of the training. "It's hybrid, with some online learning, face-to-face sessions and hands-on experiences where student are actually officiating and working through different positions and also observing and evaluating others to learn the game."

By integrating classroom education, hands-on experiences and cutting-edge technology, the partnership between USD and the SDHSAA is not only tackling a statewide challenge but is also equipping students with invaluable skillsets.

"This program allows students to get out into the community and learn skills they wouldn't get other places," said Connor Singhisen, assistant director of Intramurals & Sports Clubs. "If you look at the National Association of Colleges' Employers, conflict resolution and problem solving are two of their top

skills. Officiating is a great place to learn those skills at a younger age.

"Students also learn how to communicate with people more effectively and have some of those difficult conversations that they might not have just going to school or working at another job on campus," Singhisen continued. "These skills are very transferable. Whether you're a nurse, a teacher, or a CEO, you need to know how to manage people, how to communicate and how to deal with conflict."

"With the shortage of officials, we have the opportunity to have kids with some fresh legs and a desire to be involved in something that is a lifetime skill and can be taken anywhere," said Auch. "It doesn't matter if their career takes them to Minnesota or Iowa or anywhere else, the rulebook is the same. Officiating is a lifelong skill that they can continue to earn some extra income and have a flexible schedule, so we really just want to show them how good an officiating career can be."

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALLIANCE COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

LIFELINE

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**Alliance Communications
Universal Service Advertising Annual Rate Notice**

Alliance Communications is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory. Basic services are offered at the following rates and charges:

Monthly Service Charges	
Voice Grade Residential Service	\$18.00
Voice Grade Business Service	\$18.00
Federal Subscriber Line Charge – Single Line	\$6.50
Federal Subscriber Line Charge – Multi Line	\$9.20
Local Usage	Included
Dual Tone Multi-Frequency Signaling (Touch Tone)	Included
Single-Party Service	Included
Emergency 911 Services	Varies
Operator Service	Varies
Interexchange Service (Long Distance)	Varies
Directory Assistance	Varies

Toll Blocking is available at no charge for low income customers that qualify. If you have any questions regarding the company's services and rates/charges, please contact us by visiting www.alliancecom.net or by calling 1-800-701-4980.

Geographic areas where Alliance services are available: Alcester, Alvord, Baltic, Brandon, Carthage, Crooks, Garretson, Howard, Hudson, Inwood, Larchwood, Lester, Lyons, Oldham, Ramona, Sherman, Valley Springs, Rock County, MN (excluding inside Luerne city limits), and rural areas in Lincoln County, SD.

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**HOWARD CITY COUNCIL
PROCEEDINGS
November 13th, 2023**

The Howard City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 13th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor Eric Rentschler, Aldermen Lynn Borgers, Jean Thompson, Jackie Stuhr, Nathan Dawson, Shane Rowley, and Drew Yanish were present. Finance Officer Kim Paradeis, Deputy Heidi Dornbusch and Attorney Todd Wilkinson were also present.

Borgers moved, Thompson seconded and carried to approve the Agenda for November 13th, 2023.

Dawson moved, Yanish seconded and carried to approve the minutes from October 10th, 2023. Stuhr moved, Rowley seconded and carried to approve the reports. Past Due accounts and Sheriff's reports were Acknowledged. Borgers moved, Stuhr seconded and carried to approve the following claims:

Aflac, salaries and wages, \$166.32; All in One Landscaping, Profession services, \$1,300.00 Alliance, Utilities, \$507.00; A-Ox Welding Supply Co., Rentals, \$159.90; Appera, Rentals, \$156.00; Avera, Insurance, \$2371.50; Brosz Engineering INC., Professional Service, \$50,000; Center Point Large Print, Books \$704.10; Central Electric Coop., Utilities, \$67.00; Coast to Coast, Supplies, \$295.32; Code Enforcement Specials, Profession services, \$343.45; Colonial Life, salaries and wages, \$194.22; Core & Main LP, Machinery, Supplies and Materials,

\$9071.57; Country Line Nursery Floral, Other current expense, \$75.00; Dawson Construction, INC., Rentals, \$13,918.83; Kody Dawson, Utilities, \$125.00; Delta Dental of SD, Group Insurance, \$95.00; DGR, Professional Service, \$34,775.00; Dold Implement Co., Repairs and maintenance, \$225.26; Heidi Dornbusch, Utilities, \$45.00; East River Electric, Electricity, 11,155.92; Cayden Eliason, Utilities, \$45.00; Ecolab Pest Elimination, Rentals, \$97.20; Glacial Lakes, other current expense, \$240.00; Heartland Consumers Power, Electricity, \$67,833.85; Hometown Holidays, other current expense, \$250.00; Howard Farmers CO-OP, Repairs and Maintenance, \$1,047.21; Infotech Solutions, \$757.00; Kingbrook Rural Water, Water, \$10,404.05; Troy Loudenburg, Utilities, travel and conference, \$131.70; Liquid Tek LLC, Machinery and Equip, \$50,639.83; M & T Fire and Safety, INC, Machinery and Equipment, \$3063.39; Mid- American Research Chemical, Repairs and Maintenance, \$1020.83; Micro Marketing, LLC., Books, \$537.44; Northwestern Energy Company, Utilities, \$53.83; Office Peeps, Supplies, \$481.07; SD One Call, Professional Service, \$42.00; Kim Paradeis, Travel, Utilities, \$45.00; Purchase power, Supplies and Materials, \$39.58; Rusty's, Supplies, \$10.43; SD Dept. of Health, Professional Service, \$45.00; SD Municipal League, Other current Expense, \$1,221.10; SDSRP, Retirement, \$650.00; SD Department of Revenue, sales tax, other current expenses, \$9,733.87; Shane's Hardware, Supplies and Material, \$141.95; Sturdevants Auto Value, Supplies and Material,

\$730.90; Sun Life Financial Group Insurance, \$63.80; WAPA Utilities, \$ 20,521.39; Wesco Distribution, INC. Machinery and Equip., \$34,271.60; Winker Trenching, Professional Services, \$ 22,901.25

Wages: F/O 9438.72; Streets, 3889.49; Water, 2505.18; Electric, 8838.74; Cemetery, 92.35; Rubble, 879.18; Council, 1466.12; Library, 1,579.16; Custodian, 289.51.

Public Comment:

Justin with Rivers Edge Bank spoke to the council on behalf of the upcoming Renewal CD rates.

Old Business:

Thompson moved, Stuhr, seconded and carried to Renew Alliance Communication Contract.

The pasture lease was discussed. It is due to expire. Motion by Borgers, seconded by Rowley carried to advertise.

Eric Prunty with Brosz Engineering met with the council to discuss Phase 1 pay application for H & W Contracting. Motion Dawson, seconded Thompson carried to approve pay application for H & W contracting.

Stuhr moved, Yanish seconded to enter into an agreement/contract with Hydro-Klean LLC for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer project.

Motion by Rowley, seconded and carried to issue Hydro-Klean LLC notice to proceed for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Project.

New Business:

City Manager Position was discussed.

Borgers moved, Thompson, seconded and carried to approve the following Licenses renewal:

- David Dawson, Corner Pantry, Lots 1 & 2, of Block 1, Booth's Addition - Package (off-sale) Liquor
- Rusty's Food Store, Inc., Lot 1 of NE ¼, 11-106-56 - Package (on-off sale), Liquor including Sunday, Liquor
- Howard Athletic Club, all of SE ¼ North of Farmer's Ave. not platted 2-106-56 Ward's Addition and structures on Lots 4,5,7,8,9 & 10 Block 1 Ward's Addition - Retail (on-sale) including Sunday, Liquor

CD Renewals were discussed it was decided to renew through Rivers Edge Bank with 7-month CDs.

Correspondence was received from the City of Madison providing notice of their intent to purchase a new location to continue to operate a restricted-use site. This was discussed.

Discussion was held regarding the Airport Board.

Information was provided for Team Louie/Therapy Dog to the council members. The library is looking to utilize the service of a trained, certified therapy dog. It was

requested that Mary Kay Schlim and Elva Lefdal come to the next meeting and give a presentation on Team Louie.

The City of Howard received a letter from Kingbrook that their rates will be going up starting January 1st, 2024. With the increase, the city will raise its rates from \$.0055 to \$.0057 effective January 1st, 2024. Thompson moved, Rowley seconded and carried to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance # 757 - Amend Water Rates.

We received a letter from East River Electric regarding the rate increase for 2024.

Executive session: Motioned by Stuhr, seconded by Yanish, and carried to enter into Executive Session to discuss personal matters per SDCL 1-25-2. Mayor Rentschler declared the Council out of Executive session.

There being no further business, Stuhr moved, Thompson seconded and carried to adjourn.

Eric Rentschler, Mayor

ATTEST:
Kim Paradeis
Finance Officer

Published one time at the approximate total cost of \$65.28 and can be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.
(November 30, 2023)

**154-ACRES GREENLAND TOWNSHIP
MCCOOK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA LAND
MIX OF TILLABLE & PASTURE LAND WITH ACCESS TO LAKE VERMILION**

We have decided to offer the following land for sale at public auction located in the heated Wieman Auction Facility located 1-mile south and 1/2 mile west of Marion on Hwy. 44 on:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023 • 10:30 A.M.

It is our pleasure to offer this unique property with Lake Front Development potential on the NW side of Lake Vermillion. Rolling pasture hills with powerful tillable land would allow developers, farmers, cow-calf operators or a creage buyers a property loaded with possibilities. There is a total of 1190' of lake/river access which allows the ability to walk to your own private boat dock in your privately owned cove. Check out the drone video footage or come take a tour and let your mind dream!

LEGAL: The NE 1/4 of Section 22, 102-53 McCook County, South Dakota
LOCATION: From Lake Time Steakhouse go 2 1/2 mile north on 451st Ave turn east on 259th St. road dead ends into property or from I-90 exit 374 (Montrose Exit) go 2 1/2 miles south turn east on 259th St.
 75.02 acres tillable with 78.62 acres in rolling pasture.
 • Soil Production rating of 54.7 overall with soil ratings of 69-86 on the tillable land
 • New buyer able to lease out or farm for the 2024 crop year. Annual Taxes \$2,273.12.
 • Entire Tract is Zoned Lake Residential, see buyers packet for zoning rules and regulations
 • Aerial & Soil Maps, Base & Yield Info, and other pertinent info. found in the buyers packet
 • Mineral Rights are reserved by the State of South Dakota acting through its Rural Credit Board. This was filed on March 11, 1943 and has been kept current.

TO INSPECT THE PROPERTY: We invite you to inspect the property at your convenience. Drone video footage and buyers packet can be viewed by visiting www.wiemanauktion.com or contact the auctioneers at 800-251-3111 and packets can be mailed out.
TERMS: Cash sale with 15% (non-refundable) down payment auction day with the balance on or before January 18, 2024. Warranty deed to be granted with the cost of title insurance split 50-50 between buyer and seller. Seller to pay all 2023 taxes in full. New buyer will be responsible for all 2024 taxes. Sold subject to the owners approval and all easements and restrictions of record. Remember auction to be held in the Wieman Auction Facility.

PEGGY HEALY – OWNER • JUDY KANE – OWNER

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FINK LAW OFFICE, CLOSING ATTORNEY, 605-729-2552

BALTIC COMMUNITY MADRIGAL
 Music, meal, and merriment

Friday, December 1 & Saturday, December 2 (6:00 p.m.)
 Sunday, December 3 (4:00 p.m.)

Join us to ring in the holiday season with a community madrigal – and enjoy the Renaissance music and mood! Proceeds benefit the fine arts programs at Baltic School.

Tickets: \$45 each

To reserve your seats: Scan this QR code, or go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/baltic-madrigal-tickets-202040718227>
 (Or call 605-929-8227 and leave a message)

Roast beef meal with desserts and hot beverages

Contact Tara Rollingar at (605) 201-3635 for more information.
 Thank you for your support!

RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

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BERESFORD VFW MEETS

Marion Neuroth | Secretary

The VFW Auxiliary met on November 13 at 7pm in the City Library, with Donita Mullinix presiding. All rituals were performed and roll call was given by the secretary.

Our guest was Leah Rollage, the President of District #1, here for inspection of the Auxiliary. President Donita introduced her to the members.

The Treasurers report was given by Gerri Dahlin.

Bills were presented for approval.

Reports were given by Chairmen for Poppies, Membership, Voice of Democracy Program and Youth activities.

A report was given on Meals-on-Wheels delivered in August.

The POW/MIA table was set up at the City Library in September for two weeks.

The vendor show report was given.

Christmas Wreath orders will be delivered the first of December.

Twenty ornaments were sent to decorate the VFW Christmas tree at the Pierre Capitol.

The Veteran's Day program was well attended. The VFW Auxiliary served 65 people

cookies and coffee after the program. A donation will be sent to our National Home for Children in Michigan in honor of the person making twenty small wooden crosses for the Auxiliary.

The poppy donation was well received at the Veteran's Day program.

Christmas crosses will be presented to our Bethesda nursing home Veterans and Auxiliary members.

The Turkey Trot event was held on November 17 at the Klassix.

A donation will be given to the National Children's Home in honor of the Auxiliary 90th birthday next year.

District #1 President Leah Rollage, commented at this time.

The Trustees approved the bills presented.

President Donita announced the December meeting will be December 11 at the Senior Center at 1:30 pm. If you would like to have dinner at 11:30 am there that day, please call in your order on the Friday before to have meal, then attend meeting.

The meeting closed and lunch was provided by the President.

Donita Evenson
100
Beresford, SD
November 27, 2023



Donita Alice Evenson was born February 26, 1923 to Lacy and Amanda (Carson) Watkins in Mason City, Iowa. She died November 27, 2023 at the Alcester Care & Rehab Center at the age of 100 years, nine months and one day.

She and her husband, Everett, had two sons, Jim (Elaine) Evenson of Catonsville, Maryland and Ed (Sue) Evenson of Beresford, South Dakota.

The family lived many years in Huron, SD where Ev was the manager of the J. J. Newberry store. In 1969 they moved to Willmar, Minnesota where Donita was the

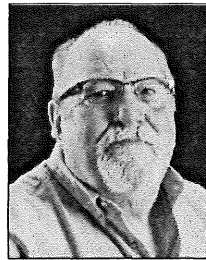
city hostess for the New Residents Welcome Center. After Ev died in 1981, Donita moved back to South Dakota. She was a Life Master Bridge Player and enjoyed playing the Bridge Marathon with her friend, Gini Finger. Donita was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Naomi Circle.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three sisters and a nephew.

In addition to her sons, Donita is survived by five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 2 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at Wass Funeral Home in Beresford, SD. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Superior, WI at a later date.

Gordon Powell
78
Parkston, SD
November 19, 2023



Gordon Wilford Powell passed away November 19, 2023 at Avera St. Benedict Hospital in Parkston, SD with his family by his side. Gordon was born on September 11, 1945 to Emery and Pearl (Talbot) Powell. He graduated from Alcester High School in 1963. He met the love of his life, Elaine Kopsas, while working together at Otis Radio. They were married on June 25, 1965 and had 58 wonderful years together. They had 2 children, David and Barbara.

Gordon worked over 40 years in the manufacturing industry. This included working for Otis Radio, Coil Craft, Raven Industries, McCord Heat Transfer, CCL Label, Hutchinson Technology, and Handgard, Inc. He also was a manager for Shop-N-Cart. He worked for Quality Presort prior to his retirement. After his retirement, they moved from Sioux Falls to live with their daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Alan, on their farm near Parkston.

Gordon enjoyed hunting, camping and fishing with family and friends. He also loved playing cards from poker, rummy, pinnacle and blackjack. He enjoyed teaching all his grandchildren how to play different card games. During his retirement, Gordon enjoyed watching and feeding the birds and butterflies.

Gordon was preceded in death by his parents, Emery and Pearl; his brothers, Gerald and Allen; his brother-in-laws: George, Ralph, Louis, John, Bill, Alex, Jerome, Curt and David; his son, David and several friends.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine and daughter, Barbara (Powell) Timm; grandchildren, Michael Powell, Travis Timm, Kimberly Powell, Kaylee (Timm) Sacks, Lucas Timm and Emilee Timm; great-grandchildren, Lillie Mendinger, Olivia Timm, Echo Sacks, Weston Timm, MaKenna Timm and Kinsley Timm.

Visitation will be Sunday, December 3, 2023 from 1:00-3:00 pm at Heritage Funeral Home with a celebration of life service at 2:00 pm. www.heritagessd.com

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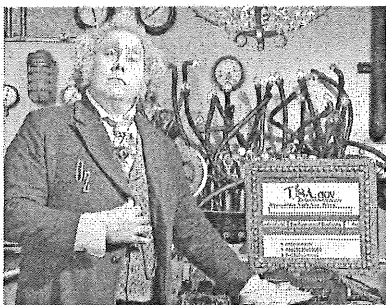
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First Dakota's Holiday Open House

You're invited

First Dakota Beresford Office
1208 W. Cedar St

FRIDAY,
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9:00am - 4:00pm

Celebrate the season with holiday treats, refreshments and door prizes!

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LYON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA

November 21, 2023

We, Chairman Hermin covered the adjourned session with Vanden Bosch, Scholten, and Alena present.

The Board approved the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The contestants gave a 6 minute presentation to judges with another 6 minute time for questions.

that he plans to work until the end of January to help Jen Smith accommodate to the new position.

Payroll dated 11-15-2023 was reviewed and approved.

Don Press, Advertising-VA.....32.00
Flex Plan.....1331.10
Little Rock Free Lance, Advertising-VA.....42.00

Emergency Management Serv.....731.52
Co. Assess Agency Fund.....2658.82
Fire Benefits Account.....1331.10

Alliance Communications
Universal Service Advertising Annual Rate Notice

Alliance Communications is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory.

- Monthly Service Charges
Voice Grade Residential Service \$18.00
Voice Grade Business Service \$18.00
Federal Subscriber Line Charge - Single Line \$6.50

Toll Blocking is available at no charge for low income customers that qualify. If you have any questions regarding the company's services and rates/charges, please contact us by visiting www.alliancecom.net or by calling 1-800-701-4980.

Geographic areas where Alliance services are available: Alcester, Alvord, Baltic, Brandon, Chatham, Crooks, Garretson, Howard, Hudson, Inwood, Larchwood, Lester, Lyons, Oldham, Ramona, Sherman, Valley Springs, Rock County, MN (excluding Indian Luverne city limits), and rural areas in Lincoln County, SD.

WL Knowledge Bowl from Page 1

ber. "It was through the LifeSmarts website, which puts on the Knowledge Bowl. And then they had a test we could study for, and it was 100 questions, and the top 40 teams got to advance to Birmingham."

Just over 80 teams took the test, and the West Lyon team made its way into the top-40.

Rentschler explained how the competition went once they got to the national convention. "Once we got there, we each split up into our own groups, like personal finance and consumer rights, and then we were each asked a series of 10 questions.

Then that score was added on to the test we took back in September. The top-24 went on. The next day is when we did pool play, and that's when you hit the buzzer. Those scores are then added on."

Since the test back in September, the number of teams has been whittled down from 80 to 40 to 24 and finally to 16. The top-16 teams after day two of the convention will be attending the national competition in Seattle, Washington, next July. The West Lyon team placed in the top-eight.

Now in their second year on the Knowledge Bowl team, Rentschler explained how they all came to join FCCLA. "Me and Savannah both joined in Junior high and we learned about it through the FCS (family and consumer sciences) class. And then as we joined, I brought Jake, and Savannah brought Alyssa and Meg. Then we were at a meeting last year and heard about the fall conference and thought that would be fun to go to. So, it was really to travel more and gain experience in the FCCLA world to bring back to our chapter."

"It was just something we wanted to explore because there's so much to do in FCCLA," Van Beek continued. "There are so many different types of STAR events and competition, and Mrs. Rockhill wanted us to expand more and see what more we could do. We had a good time last year and thought we'd do it again."

Students said the main thing they have to do until July is simply continue to study their categories. There will be one more test to help increase their scores some time before nationals.

FRONTIER BANK
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH
FROM 4-7 PM
A FREE COMMUNITY MEAL WILL BE SERVED BEFORE THE PARADE OF LIGHTS @ 6:30PM.
301 1ST AVE
ROCK RAPIDS, IA
CHARITY CHECKS AND CALENDARS WILL BE AVAILABLE. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A CUSTOMER TO ATTEND.

FY 2023 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Balances - Actual and Budget For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023

Table with columns: General, Special Revenue, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Personnel, Actual Bal, Budgeted Bal. Rows include various fund categories like General Fund, Road Services, etc.

STATE OF IOWA

2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

OFFICE OF PUBLIC FINANCE

DATE: November 1, 2023

NOTE: The information reported in this report is derived from the Iowa State Auditor's Office, the U.S. Census Bureau, and other public sources, and is not intended to be audited.

ALL FUNDS

Table with columns: Governmental, Proprietary, Total Assets, Total Liabilities, Total Net Assets. Rows include various fund categories like Governmental and Proprietary Funds.

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALLIANCE COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

LIFELINE

Financial assistance through the federal Lifeline program is available to help qualified customers afford and maintain basic telephone or broadband internet service. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$9.25 on internet service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile) per qualified household.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A 2023 household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.

Lifeline participants must recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is a government program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. The services above aren't offered in all areas.

How to Apply for Lifeline
Option 1: Apply online through the Lifeline National Verifier
Visit lifelinesupport.org from any computer or mobile device. You may need to upload verification documents to the website if you don't qualify under the Federal Public Housing Assistance. If you're deemed eligible for benefits, contact Alliance Communications at 1-800-701-4980. The Lifeline National Verifier does not notify the provider.

Option 2: Apply in person at one of our business offices.
Brandon: 1400 E. Aspen Blvd. Garretson: 612 Third St. Baltic: 501 Second St
An Alliance representative will enter your information and enroll you if you're eligible. Please bring documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits.

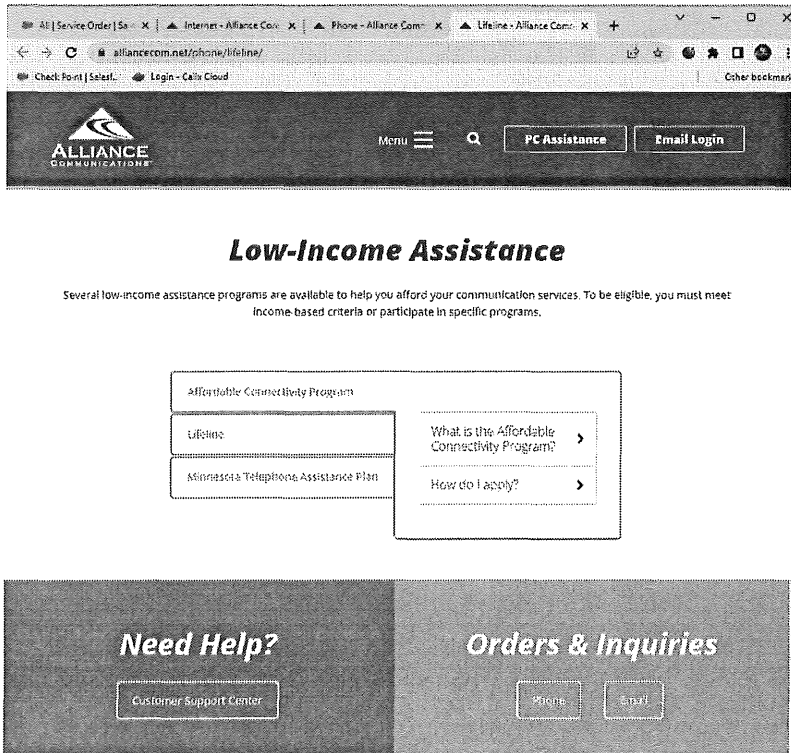
Option 3: Apply by Mail
Print an application from Lifelinesupport.org. Fill out and mail it with proof of eligibility to: Lifeline Support Center, PO Box 9100, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

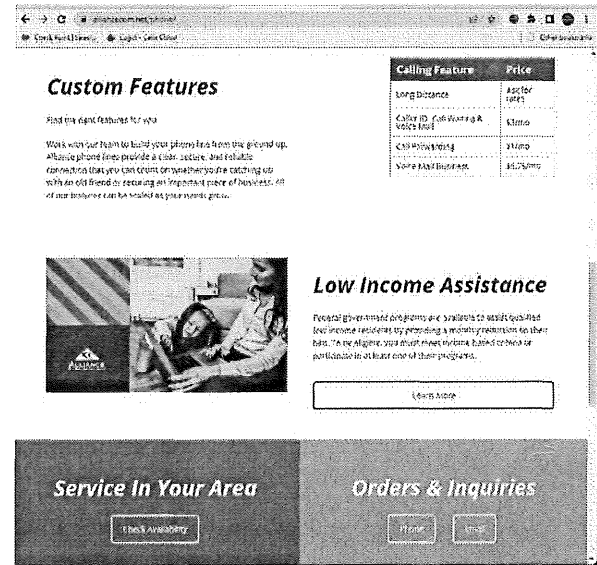
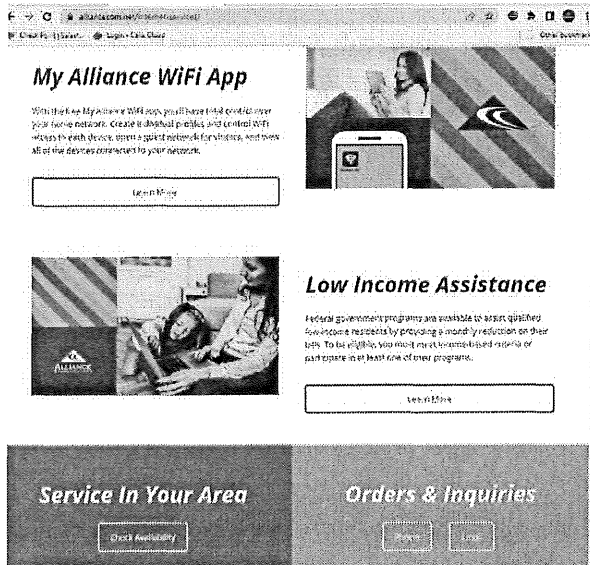
The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communications Commission program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet access. It provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households.

There are two steps to enroll: 1) Go to getinternet.gov to apply or print out a mail-in application. 2) Contact your preferred participating provider, such as Alliance, to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill. Get more details and eligibility criteria at fcc.gov/ACP.
Call 1-800-701-4980 if you have questions.

Low-Income Assistance Webpage: <https://www.alliancecom.net/phone/lifeline/>



Links to the Low-Income Assistance webpage are available on the Internet webpage (<https://www.alliancecom.net/internet-services/>) and the Phone webpage (<https://www.alliancecom.net/phone/>).





LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED RESIDENTS

Welcome to Alliance Communications!

This letter is to let you know about the availability of the Lifeline program. Lifeline is a federal government program that assists qualified low-income residents by providing a monthly reduction of \$9.25/month on broadband Internet service or \$5.25/month on telephone service.

How do I know if I'm eligible? To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, you must meet income-based criteria currently defined as at or below 135 % of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see table) OR participate in at least one of the following programs: Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, and Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit

135 percent of federal poverty guidelines (As of January 2023)

1 person: \$19,683	2 people: \$26,622	3 people: \$33,561
4 people: \$40,500	5 people: \$47,439	6 people: \$54,378
7 people: \$61,317	8 people: \$68,256	For each additional person, add \$6,939

Lifeline Rules

If you qualify, your household can get Lifeline for internet or telephone service. If you get Lifeline, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone or your home connection, but not both.

Your household cannot get Lifeline from more than one Internet company. You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, not per person. If more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you are breaking the FCC's rules and will lose your benefit.

What is a household? A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

Do not give your benefit to another person. Lifeline is non-transferable. You cannot give your Lifeline benefit to another person, even if they qualify.

Be honest. You must give accurate and true information on this form and on all Lifeline-related forms or questionnaires. If you give false or fraudulent information, you will lose your Lifeline benefit (i.e., de-enrollment or being barred from the program) and the United States government can take legal actions against you. This may include (but is not limited to) fines or imprisonment.

All yours.



You may need to show other documents. You may need to show an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or to prove your annual income. If you qualify through a government program: copies of your state ID card and an official document from the programs you are qualifying through. (The document must contain your name.) If you qualify through your income: copies of your state ID card and pay stubs for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents). Visit lifelinesupport.org to see the full list of accepted documents.

How to Apply for Lifeline

Option 1: Apply online through the Lifeline National Verifier

Visit www.checklifeline.org from any computer or mobile device. You most likely will need to upload verification documents to the website if you don't qualify under the Federal Public Housing Assistance. If you're deemed eligible for benefits, contact Alliance Communications at 1-800-701-4980. The Lifeline National Verifier does not notify the provider.

Option 2: Apply in Person

Visit one of our business offices.

Brandon: 1400 E. Aspen Blvd.

Garretson: 612 Third St.

Baltic: 501 Second St

An Alliance representative will enter your information and enroll you if you're eligible. Please bring documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits.

Option 3: Apply by Mail

Complete FCC Form 5629. Then mail the application and a copy of documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits to USAC at the address listed on the application.

For more information, dial 611 from any phone with Alliance service, (605) 582-6311 or 1-800-701-4980.

Sincerely,
Alliance Communications

**The Lifeline program isn't available in the communities*

All yours.



Welcome to Alliance Communications

Hello, {First Name}!

We are happy that you are here! We know that we covered a lot of information at the time you set up your new service. If you have any questions, we are here to help.

Our business offices are open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. We also offer 24-hour tech support. Dial (805) 582-6311 and follow the prompts.

You will receive a follow-up call from one of our representatives to check in with you on your installation and service. You will also receive an email about your billing and payment options.

Thank you for choosing Alliance. We are glad to have you as a customer.

Sincerely,
Alliance Communications

Current Promotions

Support

Contact

Low Income Assistance

Alliance Communications
www.alliancecom.net
(805) 582-6311

Hours
Business Office M-F: 9 am to 4:30 pm
Tech Support Available 24 x 7



Alliance Communications | 805-582-6311 | email@alliancecom.net

This is a screenshot of a welcome email that we send to new customers. If customers click on the Low Income Assistance ad, they are directed to this webpage:

<https://www.alliancecom.net/phone/lifeline/>